

Subject: Westchester BID Needs City Attorney Help
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It seems like the Westchester BID (and its "sister BID," The Gateway to LA BID) could benefit from a meeting with you or the appropriate person in the City Attorney's Office to discuss homeless services issues.

We have convened a task force for the purpose of "increasing the efficiency and effectiveness with which we address homeless service needs." Let's at least use the resources that we are devoting to provide services in the best way possible.

The task force includes our wonderful LAPD team (SLO Pete Abaskharon, SLO Ruben Garcia, and Pacific Division Commanding Officer Nichole Alberca); both Pastors from the Venice 4 Square Church (Mr. and Mrs. Weller) who have been quite effective in placing individuals in need in appropriate housing; representatives from both BIDs; the Executive Director and Clinical Director for the Airport Marina Counseling Service; and, selected community representatives. We met earlier this week with County Mental Health Department representatives. Our focus was on how to better use the conservatorship process to interrupt the revolving door that channels individuals who are in obvious need of care back onto our public streets. (I'm certain you know the story well.)

One of the conclusions that we reached was that maybe the real solution lies in legislating a new legal tool that will assist LAPD and others. Of course City Attorney Mike Feuer and his office are widely known for effective outside the box solutions to improve our community. So we'd like to meet with your office as soon as possible. What do you think?